7 December 1951

OGC Has Reviewed

Chief, Fiscal Division Through: Comptroller General Counsel

Retroactive Advance of Leave

25X1A

1. Reference is made to your memorandum of 28 November 1951 concerning retroactive advance of sick leave. Our review of agency Regulation ____ confirms your belief that this section does not cover such an advance.

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- 2. Agency Regulation ______ is in accord with Section 3 of The Sick Leave Act of March 1h, 1936, h9 Stat. 1162. Both provide that in cases of serious disability or silments and when the exigencies of the situation so require, sick leave may be advanced to permanent employees not in excess of thirty days. The same phraseology has been carried over into Section 20h(c) of the Annual and Sick Leave Act of 1951.
- 3. The Comptroller General has interpreted these terms, as stated in Section 3 of The Sick Leave Act of March 1h, 1936, as an intent to limit the granting of sick leave in advance to "cases of serious disability or ailments." In a decision dated April 15, 194h, 23 Comptroller General 789, he stated as follows:

"and when required by the exigencies of the situation' authorises the advancing of sick leave in cases other than those of serious disability or adments. It would seem clear that the purpose of said clause was to prescribe the conditions or circumstances under which the sick leave may be advanced in cases of serious disability or ailments."

This clear statement of the conditions or circumstances under which sick leave may be advanced obviates the possibility of a retroactive advance of sick leave.

4. We have also considered the possibility of an advance of annual leave as a partial relief measure in the situation outlined. However, Agency Regulation allows such an advance only in cases of emergency.

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5. It is our opinion that the 63 hours in excess of accrued annual leave should be considered as leave without pay.

CONFIDENTIA.

OOC/JGO/McD

Approved For Release 2092(05/08 NF) RDP57-00384R000500120109-6

Orig - Add